

Attendance

Video	Audio
Stock Footage school, kids	<p>Every day, hundreds of thousands of youth are absent from school; many are absent without an excuse and deemed truant.</p> <p>Truancy is the first sign of trouble; the first indicator that a young person is giving up and losing his or her way. When young people start skipping school, they are telling their parents, school officials and the community that they are in trouble and need our help if they are to keep moving forward in life.</p>
Truancy Program stock footage Graphic	<p>When a community addresses truancy, utilization of this simple equation can help.</p> <p>Attendance + Attachment = Achievement</p> <p>Also known as the 3 “A”s’ of school success</p>
Stock	<p>The critical first step is to ensure that students understand the importance of attending class by involving parents in all aspects of truancy prevention, creating an efficient attendance-tracking system at the school, communicating students' absences to parents and school officials immediately.</p>
Graphic	<p>Here are 10 things a school can do to improve attendance provided by the National Center for School Engagement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make students and parents/guardians feel welcome. 2. Create an environment that enables students to feel successful—no matter how small it may seem. 3. When a student is absent, immediately talk to the parent or guardian — not their answering machine. 4. When a student is absent, immediately talk with them about

	<p>why they were gone—let them know you are aware</p> <p>5. Forge a relationship with local businesses where youth may congregate when truant—encourage them to keep students in school during school hours.</p> <p>6. Forge a relationship with local law enforcement—make them your allies in showing the community, families, and students that school is the place to be.</p> <p>7. Don't provide the temptation for youth to be truant. Close your campuses during breaks and lunch.</p> <p>8. Empower and expect classroom teachers to take action when they think a student may be truant.</p> <p>9. Reward and recognize good attendance—not just perfect attendance.</p> <p>10. Make your school a place where students feel safe and respected.</p>
<p>Kids Stock Footage</p> <p>Graphic</p>	<p>During today's workshops and throughout the next 2 days you will be able to learn more about the 3 "a"s, precursors, and correlates of truancy plus promising approaches in dealing with the issue in your community. One thing is certain, truancy prevention and intervention is an organized commitment that involves all organizations and individuals concerned with the welfare of children. Your attendance at this conference is proof that the commitment to America's youth is strong.</p> <p>Welcome to Partnering to Prevent Truancy: A National Priority.</p> <p>Please Welcome the Administrator of OJJDP J. Robert Flores.</p>
Alternate	<p>Please Welcome the Administrator of OJJDP J. Robert Flores, and the Deputy Under Secretary of the Office of Safe Drug-Free Schools Deborah Price</p>